



Attorney Docket No. 440191/PALL

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

GUTMAN et al.

Application No. 09/462,765

Art Unit: 1723

Examiner: M. Savage

Filed: June 2, 2000

For: FILTER ASSEMBLY

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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MAR 04 2002

TC 1700

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 30, 2001, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks. Applicants petition for a one-month extension of time, extending the date for response to and including February 28, 2002, and submit the requisite fee therefor.

AMENDMENTS

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 7 with:

According to an aspect of the invention, there is provided a filter assembly comprising a plastics housing providing an inlet port and an outlet port, the material of the housing being such that the assembly can be sterilized by subjecting the interior of the housing to steam under pressure while the exterior of the housing is at atmospheric pressure without damaging the housing, a filter element held in the housing and comprising a filter medium of water wettable material having a central passage extending between first and second ends of the filter medium, the first end of the filter medium being embedded in a first end cap of a plastics material at a first joint to close said passage and the second end of the filter medium being embedded in a second end cap of a plastics material at a second joint, wherein the characteristics of the filter medium at the joints are not materially changed, said second end